CYAN MAGENTA

BLACK

Universal Declaration of Principles on Firearms Regulation" that would have all nations establish gun turn-in programs, license all gun owners, and require registration of all firearms. Each of these steps on the road to domestic disarmament are also key objectives of the U.S. anti-gun lobby in general, and the Clinton administration in particular.

Many local law enforcement agencies have conducted so-called gun "buy back" (turn-in) programs, which entice law-abiding individuals to surrender firearms in exchange for money or other rewards. The guns collected are often destroyed.

Yet as Dr. Gary Kleck and other scholars have pointed out, such programs have no impact on the crime rate. Even many who espouse them admit as much, acknowledging that it is absurd to assume that criminals will voluntarily surrender the tools of their trade.

Turn-in programs do, however, accomplish at least two objectives: they increase the disparity between the number of guns held by law-abiding citizens and those in the hands of lawbreakers, (thereby promoting, rather than deterring, crime), Let us look back for a moment, to August and they gradually reduce the overall sup-



keep the county attorney honest. Enough confidence to question rules and regulaedge to resolve problems when it will be cost effective. in November. with minimum intereference in citizens lives. Enough

We must have at least one strength to hold an unpopuleast one commissioncommissioner that knows lar opinion and the courage er who truely believes enough about the laws to to change his mind when he in service to the public

We must have at least one ernment. One who commissioner who is com-will even publish a tions handed down by state puter literate and is willing to newspaper in that bureaucrats. Enough knowl- employ improved technology effort. Vote for BIVINS

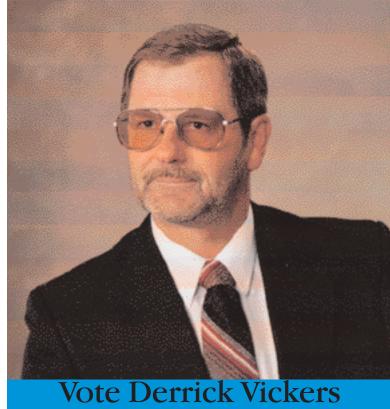
> We must have at least one commissioner who knows his

authority and does not hesitate to use it, one who knows the chairman's authority and will insist that he not exceed it.

We must have at least one commissioner who believes passionately in the citizen's right to know anything they want to know about county

We must have at at every level of gov-

times



Sheriff **Grady County**

Vote Derrick Vickers - November 7, 2000

I have over thirty five years experience in Management, Supervision, Administrative and Budget Areas. This fully qualifies me in running the Sheriff's Department as a Business. because it is a business as well as a law enforcement agency.

I plan to implement a drug squad, focus on young people, improve wages. Have efficiency and proffessionalism throughout the department, showing no favoritism or partiality. Equalness to all citizens regardless of race, religeon, sex, creed or financial status. Reduce department waste, 911 issues,

job performance. Realignment & restructuring of job duties, initiate training programs. Setting high standards along with implementation of needed policies and procedures. Enforce the safety, service and protection of all citizens. I will have an open door policy at all

In the Nov. 7 General Election, voters can cross over and vote for any candidate regardless of party.

Grady County "Serving Grady County"

Intentionally Prophetic & Opinionated

STANDARD MAIL U.S.POSTAGE PAID PERMIT NO.12 WHIGHAM, GA. 31797

August, 2000 • TIME TO TAKE OUR COUNTY BACK • Issue 7, Volume

Slippery Fox Award The Slippery Fox Award goes to county Attorney Tom Lehman.

At the Aug. 1 meeting, Mr. Lehman brought a sample ballot to be presented to voters, so they could vote in November on whether they wanted zoning regulations on every square inch of land in Grady County.

The suggested ballot language demonstrates the intent to decieve the voters, so they will not understand what they are voting for:

As provided by Georgia State Law, should the **Grady County Board of** Commissioners enact a basic land classification system to establish the uses of land permitted within the unincorporated areas of Grady County?

Clear as mud, right? I stated that if zoning was put on the ballot, it would have to be clear to voters what they were voting on. That I would take it to the courts if necessary.

County voters must come out in record numbers to defeat this insult to our private property rights.

\$PA Regulation இர்**9**on near Whigham . **Epring Regulations** -

New EPA Farm Regulations Coming Zoning Regulations Coming At You

Zoning Ambush

When Ex-commissioner John Harrell shows up at a commissioner meeting, I know there is going to be the devil to pay. He is there at the invitation of one or more of the city commissioners for a demonstration on how to thwart my efforts to resolve yet another problem.

The problem was racetrack noise. and junkyards. A delegation of citizens had come to the previous three meetings, complaining of a motorcycle racetrack built in their neighborhood. At the previous meeting, I requested sample ordinances to be provided for study. If we can directly resolve specific problems with an ordinance, this would leave citizen's other property rights intact.

A good case can be made for the use of ordinances to resolve problems. A few short years ago, gigantic chicken houses were being built all over Grady County. Complaints of odor, improper waste disposal, etc. were numerous. An ordinance was passed by the board of commissioners, specifying restrictions on future chicken house construction. I have not heard a complaint since.

Besides, even if you have zoning regulations, ordinances still have to be written and passed into law to address specific problems. My requesting noise and junkyard ordinances for study just served as an excuse to bring up zoning regula-

The city commissioners Burns and

Copeland, supported by Norton, and voters live in the city of Cairo. They ex commissioner Harrell thought this have been led to believe that the reawould be a good time to bring up son their tax bill is so high is because Zoning Regulations - again. If you will remember, this is one issue that got John Harrell defeated in 1996.

Well, their effort led to the subject ing on page 4: of a zoning referendum. In defense of "You can expect attempts soon to referendum. Motion was not second- down.'

but I am not ready for the issue of turn out in record numbers for the zoning to come up at all, until after November election. I will continue the November election. Why?

If Lewis defeats Norton, and Bivins to join the fight to stop zoning, thereis reelected, then we can prevent the by protecting our property rights, and board from passing zoning regulations. Remember, even if citizens vote not to have zoning regulations, the referendum is non-binding. A majorithis letter to every voter in Grady ty on the board can still vote in zon- County. Maybe concerned citizens ing. My opinion is that they will vote it could pass it around. If you have in because of special interest influ- friends in D3 - Duncanville, Higdon, ence, and that Norton, Burns, and Midway, Ragan - Calvary and Reno, Copeland are in their pocket.

Remember also, that if zoning is about our property rights and elecway for consolidation of city and county government. This will cause each other about my re-election, as owners to be taxed for the continued vate property rights goodbye, never growth of Cairo. Believe it.

Believe also, that the citizens of George Bivins Cairo will vote for zoning in the county.. Forty five percent (45%) of county

they are being double taxed.

In my first issue of The Grady County Inquirer, I wrote the follow-

Mr. Copeland, he expressed the con- implement zoning regulations in cern that he did not think it right that Grady County. It must be done while city voters should vote on zoning regthe three wolves, Norton, Burns, and ulations for unincorporated county. I Copeland are in the majority on the agreed with him, and later entered board of commissioners. Hopefully, the motion for a division, if it goes to the writing of this letter will slow it

The only way to stop zoning regu-Ordinarily, I am for referendum, lations on our farms and homes is to the fight. Mr. Walter Lewis is anxious the planned increased tax burden on unincorporated county property.

I wish that I could afford to send you may want to have a talk with them passed in the county, it will pave the tion of property rights advocate Walter Lewis. I hope you will talk to unincorporated county property well. Otherwise, we can kiss our pri-

SYLVESTER -

Worth County officials have

had to explain that the new corbeide garbege collection program is not a take-it-or-leave-it propo-

sition. All beaneholds within the

county will be billed \$12.75 per

month to cover the cost of the ner-

vice, plus the the fee already

being charged to fund the colld

waste transfer station. Officials

point out that participation is

The controversial issue of

mundatory countywide garbage

pickup come to an end at a recent

meeting of the Ben HIII County

Board of Commissioners when

commissioners voted, by a split vote, to table the question until it

Worth County apparent-

ly imposed mandatory

can be put before voters.

izens.

mandatory, not voluntary.

FITZGERALD -

Special Interests

Cairo. She asked me who pay its way. were the special interests I Yes, I know business is was always referring to? I being taxed and houndsaid, for one, the Cairo ed by the federal govern-Messenger. She replied ment at every turn, and I that is no special interest, sympathize, but we are that is a business.

beyond her reasoning that that I am concerned businesses could be a speabout. If I were a U.S. cial interest. Business is Senator, I would talk to the biggest special interest you about the federal in Grady County. They stuff. seek to be sanctified at the Chamber of business, County Commission (Commerce).

This reminds me of a time, many years ago, when I was flying for PANAM almost exclusively into Central and South America. I noticed that the pursers were hauling sioners themselves realliquor off the airplanes by ize. the case and giving it to the customs agents in Rio, Buenos Montevideo, and other in one package. They can

places. When I complained about they can ruin it. this they said it was in the best interest of the compaget caught up in the poliny and America. They tics of the job, and their were good will ambas- own self-importance, sadors. You see they had rather than representing been doing this so long the citizens as job one. and gotten away with it, They depend on the that it was not wrong any- county attorney, adminismore. The practice had trator, county clerk, or

become sanctified. When the practice was provide information on exposed it was clear that which they make decithe purpose was to bribe sions. They don't realize custom officers to look the that the information proother way while they vided may be slanted, smuggled jewels and arti-resulting in a biased decifacts out of the country. All sion. This does not repreat the expense and liability sent the people; it allows of PANAM.

I want business to prosper words, them who control

and grow in Grady Two weeks ago, I had a County, but not at the from the desk of conversation with a lady expense and liability of who is in business in its citizens. Let business

talking here about local You see it was totally conditions. That is all

The office of county commissioner is much more important than many people realize. It is much more important than many of the commis-

The county commissioners are lawmakers, Aires, legislators, and judges all make your life better, or

Some commissioners

others to do it. In other

the information controls

commissioner. some special interest to provided. conduct is by his past,"

George Bivins

THE EDITOR

the decisions.

Commissioners today need to have a source of information apart from that provided by staff. That source is the Internet. This is a source that is virtually unlimited. It requires only limited computer skills. In five minutes I can pull up any Georgia law and read it or print it out. I can access other counties web page, communicate with them to see how they handled a problem.

I have used my computer skills to provide information to the other commissioners, often in conflict with staff, to arrive at a good decision.

When faced with the proper information the commissioners have to vote sensibly, or be made to look bad at election time. This is the secret to my legislative success as a

It is election time, and I am publishing what I consider improper positions taken by some commissioners, in the face of good information that I

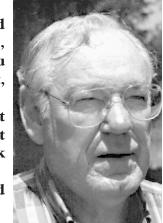
"The only way we can judge a person's future

Whispering Charlie

Norton is whispering around that Bivins is too radical. No, Charlie, you are confused. You mean too patriotic, too honest, and too caring.

You could also say that Bivins is impatient with foot dragging, inefficiency and lack of accountability.

You may even get a road paved if you are not careful.



KOHANNESBURG, South Africa

AIBS conference to correspon

With the AIDS pundantly sweeping across Africa, thousands of the world's too experts on the disease are gathering for the 12th Internation-**41** AIDS Conterence — the first time the meeting. has been held on the continent most revered by the disease.

Severally percent of the 84 million people infected with the virus that causes AIDS live in out Seharun Africa. Nearly all the world's 11 million. AIDS ornhans live here as well.

State Prison Near Whigham By George Bivins

WHIGHAM - Over 34 million people worldwide are known to be infected with the AIDS virus. Virtually all will die of full blown AIDS. In America, the number of AIDS infected people is not known, for sure, their status is protected.

Aids infected victims with little or no immunity, are incubators for developing drug resistant diseases, such as TB, Hepatitus C, and God knows what else.

I cannot see subsidizing the location of an incubator for all these diseases built near Whigham. The employees of these prisons will serve to spread diseases to the populace.

See my article on these diseases in the June Grady **County Inquirer.**

Remember this guy?

I have developed this column to make sure everyone is aware of the rules for our household garbage dump-

Only household garbage may be put into them. All other trash must be taken to Cairo City Dump. A new county law has been written with teeth.

State law, incorporated with county law, requires the Sheriff to write citations just like a speeding ticket. The Magistrate Court will process the violations and collect the fines.

Only about 2% of citizens are ignorant of the rules of garbage and trash disposal, or just don't care. That means that 98% of citizens do care.

I am asking the citizens who care to help the Grady County Commission, and the Sheriff, to police these

End demoster divine

€ € is there a law against dompster divers? (t'e a where to see people in dumpeters ripping open bega. We are not that poor of a county It's a diagram.

SPARKLING CLEAN! Miss Mary Ann **Cleans Whigham Homes Beautifully** Call 551 9461

LEWIS SAND COMPAN **ALL TYPES OF**

SAND/MASONRY, COCRETE. PLASTER, TOPSOIL, ROCK BASES 912-377-5011



making call in complaints cle and the condition you to your commissioner.

When you call your commissioner you should will protect the identity of tell him the tag number, the citizens who report the county and state, and violations.•

REPUBLICANS.

TIME

SO MANY

SO LITTLE

observed.

This comic strip is to remind you that there are Republicans in the county races. You

will probably not vote for them in the July Primary, because if you did you would not

In the November General Election, you can vote for any candidate in any party.

Please remember that there are two Republican candidates for county commis-

be able to vote in the other races which are mostly Democrats.

sion. I think two Republicans and three Democrat commissioners is fair.

This is the time when Republicans can shine.

This commissioner

George Bivins

Commissioner D1 Phone: 912-762-3200 e-mail: gbivins@rose.net

Obviously, I will insist upon referendum before I will require citizens to spend \$600,000 per year.

decide the issue.

Since I have explained the issues to you, and demonstrated to you by the above examples, I hope you will join with me and the board of commission-Sheriff the Department, and Magistrate Judges Office, to clean up our garbage/trash problems.

It will take some real concern and effort on the part of good citizens to resolve our problem.

Obviously the county police cannot see all that goes on in the county, but citizens can, and you must take action, or we will pay the price.

Businesses cannot dump at these garbage sites, nor out of county or out of state people.

Citizens living near the county or state lines should maintain a careful lookout at dumpsters sites.

garbage pickup on their cit-Whereas Ben Hill County Commissioners decided to hold a referendum on the issue, let voters





The Funny Paper



Now I believe I understand why Norton, Burns, and Copeland voted not to include in the FY2001 budget, the funds for Surveying roads already approved by DOT, and funds for repainting road centerline stripes. They apparantly were depending on another 1% SPLOST.

I have already stated, that if local governments and schools start depending on SPLOST, they'll stop managing our money. Budgeting will mean nothing.



Mr. Norton admits that he intentionally and with forethought, lied about his intention to change chairmen every year. Lied about his agreement that this would reduce outside influence on the board of commissioners.



Home schoolers compete & excel

welve-year-old George Thampy of Maryland Heights, Mo., distinguished himself ... by winning the Scripps Howard National Spelling Rec. Thempy is truthed thome by big-yemother along with five of his six siblines. Not only that, but Thampy had been runner-up the week before at the National Geography Bee and had competed at the top levels of the national spelling bee in two previous years. In addition to Thampy the other two finalists at the spelling bee were also home-schoolers, as were an amazing 11 percent of those who made it to the national level competition.

From nearly negligible numbers 20 years ago, home-schooling has exploded to include 1.5 million American children. Many of our elite institutions of higher learning are discovering that home-schoolers make excellent students who can compete and excel against any others.

Many skeptics or opponents who are unfamiliar with home-schooling express concerns about socialization. Thampy and others dispel these concerns, and the evidence bears them out

The evidence is overwhelming that homeschooling not only shouldn't be suspect, but that ii works well. — The Neouda (Mo.) Dativ Mail

EPA rushes to create new rules ___

Clinton tries to beat deadline for waterway cleanup rules

ilir Goth Baranetain and Storm Then

WASHINGTON — Despite an act just passed by Congress that expressly fartids it, the Clinton administration has found a way to impose tough new rules to eleen top waterways polluted by runoff from farms, farests and cities. The secret President Cliston

hes ordered the Environmental Protection Agency to runh the rules to completion before the July 18 deadline for his signature making the hill a law. Involved is a type of renoff the administration mys poliutes 20,000 U.S. rivers, leaves and bays.

The key word in the rider was now. The president has until July 13 to sign the military spending bill, so if the EPA om ounded the nearly finished rules pronto, the prohibition will be

"It won't be new and the law will be printless," said University of Virginia government professor Larry Sabato. "As usual, Citaton holds all the area."

Clinton's use of executive ureregetives is something he has resorted to increasingly to dely the will of the Republicancontrolled Congress.

Eiditor's Note:

plant, where you can plant it.

environmental positions.

A republic is not a democracy

As much as Ladmire Chad-ton Heston, I wish he would stop misopotine Benfambi.

Reston often tells the story about the lady who saked. Frenklin after the Constitu-

HER HALL Convention ended,
"Well,
what
kind of
government
have you
given

Charley Resea Dolumetet Hen-

ton then quotes . Franklin es saying, "We have ghen you a democracy — if you can keep it."

Actually the traditional version of the story has Franklin mying, "We have ghum you a republic -- if you can keep it." That indeed is what the Constitution gives use a republic. And a republic and a demotrary are not the same thing.

The almplest way to explain it is that we do not wote for legislation. We elect represantatives, and they vote on legislation. In theory, if we do not like the way they have voted, then we don't re-elect

people vote directly for items on reference, but, by and large, the business of Ameri-

... we do not vote for legislation. We elect representatives. and they vote for legislation.

our representatives, who are expected to exercise their own todernest on the public leaves. We then exercise our jodg-ment about their perior-One rerely hears any talk

about republican government these days, with most politi-cians, like Heston, preserving to call it democracy Although I think Heston is innocent of any guile, the bhurring of the distinction is deliberate on the part of the politicisms. It is applied into designed to create the filturion to our minds that

In fact, today in America. the many are ruled by the five, who are careful enough to do it gently and bahind clouds of rhetoric so that it isn't obvions. Members of the public, by and lerve, not only do not know what's gaing on, they

we actually govern ourselves.

You and I, of ecorus, are the exceptions. Unfortunately. It's true in some states that the "Enceptions Party" is not on the ballet. I'm earry but I

thy It's easy enough to say ednestion, but if people don't care, they wen't bother to learn. People keep forgetting that education involves hard work, and that doesn't seem so popular anymore. There is alwaye mere knowledge swallable than there are people who care to acquire it. I do know that must people with a college education there days arreser to be about as ignorant and apathetic as people who don't have one.

George Bivins - Editor

Phone: 912-762-3200

e-mail: gbivins@rose.net

It might well be true that any people, at any time, who are reasonably well-fiel, ordertained and not visibly threatened will settle into ignorance and apartry like a man settling into a goose-down mattered by an elistroom map. If all seems to be well with the world, their बांद्र कारापु?

I wurry because I see American freedome being taken away ever so gradually and always in the name of some allegadly greater good. It's true that it is still possible to live a good life Will our children and grandchildren beable to say that? And what is a good title?

Being a Celtic man, I deeples the idea of anybody but God and my conscionce telling me what I must do or what I must think or what I must say. That's the good life I want freedom. And that kind of good life is being threatened

Charley Rosse's columns in distributed by King Pastures

don't know the answer to pub-He ignorance and public apacan government to bandled by Citizens of District 1 elected me as their commissioner because they thought that I felt the same way they did about most issues. They had good reason to believe it, because I had published many letters telling them how I felt. Now, they have seen the proof by my voting record. A record that I have published in this paper.

The article above by Charley Reese explains that your representative Farmers can get ready for new votes for you. If that is true, then you had better check on your representative regulations on what you can to see if he voted your way, before you reelect him. Because, if reelected, he will be in an incumbent position where he can really hurt you. An incumbent, with If you think it is bad all the experience, can be a champion for good or bad. Please do yourself and under Clinton, check out Gore's your fellow citizens a favor - check him out.

Cat fight in the courthouse

> Soon after the Aug. 8 runoff election, two county employees didn't like the apparent winner, who won by only 3 votes. The next day while on duty in the courthouse, these two employees and one of the polls workers went to the Probate Judge's Office and filed to have a recount. You would think that the loser should request a recount, wouldn't you?

> One of these, on duty, county employees was non other than the county clerk, the other works in the court clerk's office. Who do you suppose was the leader of this trio?

Now, if the apparent winner occupies the Probate Judge's office, there will be many years of animosity for the board of commissioners to weather, because we failed to control our county clerk. Just as it has had to weather with the tax office, and for the same reasons. There are people who just love trouble and dissentions, because it gives them a sense of power. A strong chairman would put a stop to this.

It looks like ten Republicans were allowed to vote in this Democrat runoff. A new runoff election may have to be scheduled. If it happens, and if I could, I would vote for the apparent winner, just to teach these courthouse big shots a lesson. Make sure the apparent winner is a decisive winner, without question. These courthouse big shots have very little respect for the voters anyway. They think they run the county, so why shouldn't they decide who should be elected.

The Riverbank

The Issue of Bivins

Back in the early 90s. I Philosopher, continue. Time and money are always barriers informed few, the occuto working class people.

was information rich. Ed is government informa- Bivins is not controlled by line is that the citizen's government arises in was gracious enough to tion and associations the majority of commisallow me to write in it and which support themselves sioners, or the local paper, I did so. Today, George in the form of special or the local economic Bivins publishes a month- interest. The three legs of associations. Mr. Bivins is ly tabloid, which is fur- the stool support them- a free man, and has taken nished free of charge to so selves by the use of public a lot of slings and arrows many. The only way the means, and do so by pro- for the benefit and purpeople of our county will moting the notion that pose of other citizens who ever be informed is by what's good for them is want to stay free. people who hold certain what's good for us. values within them that are important enough to erty is an issue, which the on the ground today withspend their own money so three legs are happy to out local government havthat you the citizen can be ignore, because, it is a ing an opinion. If it stands

informed. Komarek, and Mr. Lewis never have supported - propagandize it, and preare not active in the coun- the taking of private prop- vent it's spread in the soty because we seek materi- erty. I confronted the comal rewards. The object has missioners during public always been to protect pri- comment time several zen, think the next elecvate people and their years ago, and that led to tion is about good governrights from those in the the Savannah trip to meet ment in Grady County, establishment who use with higher government. you would be wrong. It is local government, the You the citizen in Grady about whom the governlocal paper, and local County live under the ment will exist for, and association in ways that control of various special whose use can be served. promote what's good for interests, rather than in them as good for every- your own control, exam- Grady County if it is ever

agreed with the local gov- common benefit. Has the ers. Taxes, regulations, being sought as the savior

establishment friendly newspaper, and local published a small tabloid group? The local govern- establishment associacalled the Riverbank ment, the local paper, and tions ever seen a tax they which the local political and eco- didn't like? Have they ever proved to be important nomic associations, all act seen a regulation on your but impossible for me to as support legs to the freedom that they didn't same stool. To the support together? The true issue concernpant of the stool is not ing Commissioner Bivins In the late 90s. Ed government information is not what he advocates Komarek published a equally supporting the ingovernment on it's mer-

ernment, or any other local government, local

tabloid for a time, which people's best interest, but its, but is the fact that Mr.

You as a citizen of The Tired Creek prop- Grady County can't spit shameful example of still - tax it. If it moves -Bivins. Mr. something they should regulate it. If it can think called public media.

If you, the ordinary citi-

The government of pled by government, to learn what government Have you ever wit- media, and economic represents to a free peonessed any example in associations, whose rea- ple-it must free its selfwhich the local paper dis- son for being should be first and that takes the vot-



special interest influence, of society. The other side all these things work for of that is that in a once free somebody, and the bottom society the need for such power and interest is human dependence on quenched in favor of oth- government, and never in

rights, money, and proper- accordingly. ty, but how freely I do it, in perish for citizens.

citizens don't trust free- for. dom in our society, and are hard at work using willing to be out front, but government every day to the rest had better support undermine our values and those few, or else the responsible towards a day when we those few, are but ripe will become so dysfunc- fruit, ready for any hand to tional that government pick and consume them. will take over everything Walter Lewis 8-1-2000 as a needful result.

The Anti-Christ will rise as a result of government

a people loving their free-I may give away all my dom enough to live

To love government, my loss of those things, and to see government as makes me a free man or a the authority, under which slave. I, as a citizen of people are to live their Grady County, realize, as lives, is the very social sysan American, that govern-tem necessary, before that ment at all levels grows in government can cast away power and in influence, the people's values in the and in the growth of those society. My school, my governments, the day will church, my family, my govcome when complete ernment, my rights, and all socialism will occur, and other important things are liberty in any form will secure to me, only as I am secure in the knowledge You must learn that all of what these things exist

Only a few will ever be society, entire society, absent of

THE EDITOR

Why does Elwyn Childs run?

I cannot see for the life of me why Mr. Childs would run against me for county commissioner. He served 18 years as commissioner, during which time the county went stone cold broke. Could not meet payroll, or pay the bills without borrowing money.

Could it be that he. like another elected Grady County officer, just needs one more term to get the state pension?

What about term limits? Personally, I believe a county commissioner, or any other similar office should be limited to two terms, and that the chairman of the county commission should rotate every year. This would serve to minimize special interest influence. Some counties in Georgia restrict a county commis-

Could it be that special interests have prevailed on Mr. Childs to run, knowing that he will play ball, and keep quiet, not make a fuss about anything?

more than two terms.

Could it be that the Whigham Community leaders, Truelock, Mr. Harrell, and Mr. Eubanks have transformed Mr. Childs into a Whigham boy, so that they could start this "state prison in Whigham without a referendum" again, if he wins?

can judge the future con-

duct of a man is by his past." I intend to examine Mr. Child's voting record as a commissioner. I invite him to examine mine as well.

George Bivins

Carroll County authorities were not required to stop collecting a special-purpose, local option sales tax in 1998 when tax receipts reached \$34 million — the amount they told voters they wanted to raise, the Georgia Supreme Court ruled Monday

Instead, the court said the county was authorized to collect the tax for the full five years voters agreed it could

The 4-3 ruling overturned a decision of the Court of Anpeals, which held that the county had to stop collecting the tax when it reached its announced revenue goal.

cannot believe the Supreme Court ruling above.

If a local government's contract with it's citizens is not sacred then nothing is. How can the citizens ever trust the CarrolCounty Commission again. They sioner from serving had better get all they can now, because the voters will never approve another SPLOST.

> How did the issue get to court in the first place? Well, it appears they planned it all along.

> This begs a question regarding the two SPLOST already approved by Grady County voters. Will Grady County Government and the School System honor their contracts and stop collecting on schedule?

You bet your boots they will if I have anything to say about it. If I get "The only way that we reelected, I will have **Grady** something to say. **George Bivins**

What is wrong with subdivision and zoning regulations?

Simply put, these regulations provide a framework that allows bureaucrats to constantly tinker and indiscriminately change the rules, without the oversight of elected officials.

A case in point: under the building regulations of Grady County, it was decided to require electrical cutoff on the outside of buildings. I don't remember this issue coming before the board of commissioners. This was an extra cost to homebuilders, now anyone can walk up and cut the power to your house or business.

These regulations can possibly be justified in cities because of the population density. There is no justification for these regulations in the unincorporated county.

Subdivision and zoning regulations on unincorporated private property is nothing more than an attempt to totally control the use of our private property.

There are no state or federal regulations that require subdivision or zoning regulations in the county. It is strictly up to the county commissioners. Is this America, or is it Soviet Russia?

Elect Walter Lewis and George **Bivins** to the County Commission.

Tax Suckers

I am so sorry to report to you that I am a delinquent taxpayer. I failed to pay a \$5 tax bill for 1999. I rushed to the courthouse to pay the bill that now totaled \$50. I believe the collection agency got about \$23.

The purpose of this

letter is to show you two examples of how skilled the tax suckers have become, aided by state and local bureaucrats. Governmental Solutions Inc., is a company that sprang up out of nowhere to collect delinquent taxes. They advertise that it won't cost the county anything. They didn't bother to divulge that they would skin the taxpayers. Governmental

Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is an organization that apparently intends to enrich the accounting and auditing professions. Imposing auditing requirements on 87,000 local city and county governments to inventory capital assets, including trees, sidewalks, roads, etc. and to depreciate them each year. Already, Grady County Administrator and Chairman Norton intend to hire a staff accountant at a cost of about \$45,000 per year. It ain't going to happen, if I can help it.

The primary purpose of the Grady County Commission is to protect the interest of taxpaying citizens. We will do so, if I can prevail. George Bivins

Minimum Wage

The Grady County INQUIRER • August, 2000-Page 5

All over America, industries and governments give raises to employees as a percentage. When you give a 3% raise across the board year after year, the lowest paid employees fall further and further behind. Because the basic things in life that everyone has to have to survive, a loaf of bread, a gallon of milk, cost the same to a poor family as a rich family.

The federal government addresses this phenomenon by the minimum wage. Minimum wage would not be necessary if employers would address this "basic staff of life" issue, by developing a two-tier wage scale.

I have tried to address this issue on the Grady County Commission in every budget that I have been involved in.

Another justification is that the future county employees come from the low paid ranks. If the county cannot attract and hire good employees from the beginning with a reasonable wage, then we will, in the future, have to hire warm bodies and train them in basic skills.

Present laws do not permit hiring and firing until you've got the properly skilled labor force. You are stuck with whom you've hired. You had better hire very carefully.

Note: Grady County now has windows based payroll software, with integral security.

Now, it is no longer possible to give your nephew or cousin an unauthorized raise.

